

Message Text

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70

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SPC-03 AID-20 NSC-10 RSC-01

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06

SIL-01 L-03 H-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 NEA-10

ACDA-19 SAJ-01 /199 W

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R 201612Z NOV 73

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2660

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 2004

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, WB, GE, WG

SUBJECT: GDR CURRENCY EXCHANGE REGULATIONS: STATE OF PLAY

1. GDR CONTINUES TO STONEWALL SENAT'S ATTEMPTS TO NEGOTIATE CHANGES IN NOVEMBER 15 DOUBLING OF MINIMUM EXCHANGE REQUIREMENTS FOR VISITING WEST BERLINERS. GDR REFUSED TO MEET SENAT REP BEFORE REGULATIONS WENT INTO EFFECT NOVEMBER 15, AND WHEN MEETING TOOK PLACE NOVEMBER 16 TONE WAS ACRIMONIOUS. KUNZE REPEATED ARGUMENTS USED BY SCHUETZ IN NOV. 13 LETTER TO CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS SINDERMAN, E.G., SENAT HAD ONLY SIGNED VISITS ARRANGEMENT ON UNDERSTANDING THAT CURRENCY REQUIREMENTS WERE PART OF TOTAL PACKAGE, THAT LACK OF CONSULTATION WITH SENAT BEFORE PUTTING NEW REQUIREMENTS INTO EFFECT WAS NOT IN CONFORMITY WITH ARRANGEMENT, ETC. MITDANK REJECTED ARGUMENTS AND
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CLAIMED MINIMUM CURRENCY-EXCHANGE REQUIREMENTS WERE

INTERNAL GDR MATTER AND THERE WAS NO NEED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION. AT ONE POINT, MITDANK SARCASTICALLY REMARKED THAT GDR UNDERSTOOD THAT ALLIES "TO WHOM THE SENAT WAS ALWAYS SO HAPPY TO REFER" EVALUATED SITUATION SOBERLY AND DID NOT SUPPORT SENAT'S POSITION.

3. WHEN KUNZE REQUIRED ADDITIONAL MEETING FOR EITHER NOVEMBER 19 OR 20, MITDANK REPLIED THERE WAS NOTHING FURTHER TO DISCUSS. FOLLOWING MEETING SENAT SENT TELEGRAM AGAIN REQUESTING MEETING BUT REQUEST WAS ONCE AGAIN TURNED DOWN BY GDR.

4. HEAD OF CHANCELLERY HERZ INFORMED MISSION OFFICER SENAT PLANS TO CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR REMOVAL OF MORE ONEROUS ASPECTS OF NEW REGULATIONS, E.G., INCLUSION OF PENSIONERS, BUT WAS NOT OPTIMISTIC. HERZ THOUGHT IT WOULD TAKE SOME MONTHS TO BRING GDR AROUND, AND THEN ONLY POSSIBILITY WOULD BE IN CONTEXT OF SOME "DEAL." (MOST COMMON CURRENT SPECULATION IS THAT THIS MIGHT ENTAIL MORE STRINGENT CONTROLS ON CURRENCY EXCHANGE FACILITIES IN WEST BERLIN.)KLEIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES, FOREIGN EXCHANGE CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: martinjw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BERLIN02004
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731124/aaaaarbo.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Aug-2001 by kellerpr>; APPROVED <20 FEB 2002 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GDR CURRENCY EXCHANGE REGULATIONS: STATE OF PLAY
TAGS: PGOV, WB, GC, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005